

**U.S. House and Senate Notification**  
**Friday, July 30, 2010**

**To:** Congressional Health Staff

**From:** Amy Hall  
Director, Office of Legislation  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

**Subject:** HHS and CMS Celebrate 45 Years of Health Security through Medicare

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services celebrates the 45th anniversary of Medicare, the Federal health care program that guarantees health security and coverage for people over 65 and younger people with disabilities, and is releasing a new advertisement featuring Andy Griffith describing important improvements to Medicare made by the Affordable Care Act in advance of Medicare Open Enrollment. The new ad can be seen by visiting [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov).

The new advertisement will begin running immediately on national cable television stations. The advertisement is part of CMS' efforts to educate and inform people with Medicare and their family members about the many changes and improvements to the program's various options in advance of Medicare Open Enrollment.

As part of the commemoration of the benefits that Medicare provided in 1965 and improvements that have been made since then, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Administrator Don Berwick, M.D., also will host a webcast at [www.hhs.gov/live](http://www.hhs.gov/live).

If you have questions about this notification, please contact the CMS Office of Legislation.

Thank you.